

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2008, which set a three-month period for response. Filed herewith is a Request for a Two-month Extension of Time, making this amendment due by June 23, 2008.

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the abstract of the disclosure, drawings, and claims were objected to for informalities. Claims 1-14 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-3, 7, 8 11, and 13-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 117507 to Greenwood et al. Claims 1-4 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,167,691 to Nelson. Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,664,482 to Shaeffer et al. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,686,742 to Candy. Claims 9 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood in view of Shaeffer and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,486,712 to Weber. Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Candy and further in view of Weber.

Turning first to the objections to the drawings, amended drawings will be filed via a supplementary amendment, which will address the stated objections, or the relevant claims will be canceled.

The specification and claims have been amended to address the various objections.

Turning now to the substantive rejections, claim 1 has been amended to define the invention over the cited reference to Greenwood by limiting the system to a system with ONE transmit coil. The device in Greenwood requires at least a second transmit coil, which is not necessary for measurement but which apply to adjustment. Greenwood integrates both transmit coils in the measuring head. In Greenwood, the receive coils, in particular the receive coil to be connected, **are not inductively coupled with the transmit coil**. Rather, on the contrary, the receive coil is arranged to be quite remote from the transmit coil so that an actual decoupling takes place. The system of Greenwood uses an adjusted sensor head, while, in contrast, the present invention provides an inductive coupling of transmit-, receive-, and compensation coils. In this sense, the sensor head of the present invention is already adjusted.

One aspect of the present invention is that the compensation modules that are utilized are **integrated in the sensor head**.

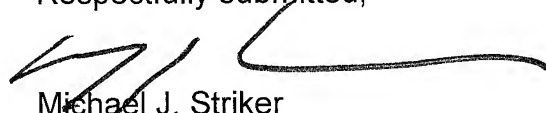
To define claim 1 more clearly over the Greenwood reference, claim 1 has been amended to add the features of claim 2, which was canceled, as well as features from the description. Claim 1 now defines that *the number of turns of the at least one receive coil (112, 114; 212, 214) is variable by connecting or*

disconnecting electrical conductor modules, and wherein connected electrical conductor modules are coupled with the transmit coil.

Because claim 1 includes features that are not disclosed by Greenwood, the rejection under Section 102 must be withdrawn. The Applicants furthermore respectfully submit that Greenwood is not a proper reference under 35 USC 102 pursuant to the guidelines set forth in the last paragraph of MPEP section 2131, where it is stated that "a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claims is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference", and that "the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim".

The application in its amended state is believed to be in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited. However, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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